

THE OVINGTON ORACLE

DECEMBER 2008

12/08

Hi everyone.

Many thanks for all the contributions you have given for use at the Bazaar, this is much appreciated especially at this Credit Crunch time. Sorry if we missed you, you can still leave any contributions for the Bazaar at Christine's Church Rd (next to Village hall) or with Rod at 31 The Street, We hope you will come and visit the Bazaar, you might find a card or a present for someone, or just pop in for a bowl of homemade soup.

OVINGTON

GRAND

BAZAAR

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6th

Doors open from 12noon to 3.00pm

We will have the following stalls:-

Books/Toys: David and Mike

Cakes: Pansy and Ed

Handmade Christmas Cards: Ann J

Christmas Gifts: Christine H

£1.00. Stall: Jeremy, Gifts: John

Tombola: Richard and Ann

Raffle: Marie Ana, Rod and Grace (to be drawn at 2.45pm)

Also a Hamper Competition, Guess No of Sweets, Treasure Hunt, Marbles,

Lyndia and Chris will be serving Homemade Soup with roll/butter. (£1.50p).

Laura, Linda and Marie will be serving tea/coffee, cakes, sausage rolls, mincepies etc..

Offers of cakes to be taken to Pansy (30 The Street), anytime on Friday 5th December or before 10am on Saturday 6th December. Thank you.

Proceeds from the Bazaar will be divided between the Village Hall and the Church.

EVERYONE WELCOME – Free Admission.

The Final Village Hall Lottery draw of the year will take place during the Bazaar.

DECEMBER DIARY

Dec 1 st	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Dec 3 rd	Gardening Club	7.45pm
Dec 6th	OVINGTON BAZAAR	12noon
Dec 8 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Dec 15 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Dec 16 th	Ladies Group	7.45pm
Dec 17 th	DEADLINE - ORACLE	12noon
Dec 22 nd	Bowls Club	1.45pm
Dec 29 th	Bowls Club	1.45pm

SUPPER EVENING

We have all been made aware that awards have accrued over a period of time for a catering outlet in Ovington. Well, it is the considered opinion of at least 54 people that following the successful supper evening on Nov 1st a new award should be formulated and presented to the Ladies of the Village for producing a repast beyond compare. For a modest fee of £6 those present had a choice of six main courses, followed by a selection of sweets to die for. The menu had a selection of good English fare with a smattering of Mediterranean and Asiatic dishes to tempt the adventurous palate.

For those not accustomed to the community spirit which permeates through all our Village activities, the evening was something of a revelation to our visitors who could not believe the friendly welcome they received, the social interchange, banter even, that made the evening a joyful occasion. Friendly rivalry between tables over who could solve the quiz questions resulted in stalemate as everyone answered them correctly.

A raffle took place as tradition decreed this to be what the public demanded, and they did.

Congratulations to the catering team and their fellows in the background who combined to ensure a memorable evening. Biggest problem was getting the guests to go home. O. K. where's that award then?

VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT

As most of you know we have now gutted the toilet area and updated it to comply with health and hygiene regulations. We now need to raise money to paint the toilet area and the rest of the village hall. Also look into the possibility of renewing the electric heaters.

ORACLE

Thank you, to the anonymous person who has sent a donation of £100 to cover the cost of printing the Oracle for 2009 much appreciated. It is interesting to note that over the past two editions we have seen an increased demand for copies of the Oracle from as far afield as Portugal, Ashill, Saham Toney, Watton, Thompson, Carbrooke & Griston. Wonder Why?

BOWLS CLUB

The Bowls Club would like to congratulate the Village Hall Committee on the complete transformation of the toilet facilities in the hall and thank the contractors for their forbearance whilst our members were trotting backwards and forwards to the loo whilst they were busily engaged in building work.

NOVEMBER LOTTERY RESULTS

£10.00.	No. 19	Jane Lambert
£ 5.00.	No. 20	Christine Hardy

Several members have already joined the lottery for 2009, so if you wish to join the Village Hall Lottery for 2009 please complete the application form on page 4. and return to Grace (31 The Street, Ovington) together with cash or cheque for £12. before the 5th January 2009.

Many thanks, to those of you who support the lottery and to Mollie who collects the money from members of the Bowls Club.

GARDENING CLUB

Our November talk by John Holden from Aromafolia Nursery, was very informative and interesting. With the help of slides and plants we were shown where many of the salvias originated from, so we were able to judge where we could grow them in our own gardens. The members have been inspired to visit the nursery at Old Buckenham when it reopens in March and browse the large collection of Salvias they grow.

Our next meeting on **December 3rd** at 7.45pm is our AGM and Christmas meeting, we will have our usual competition, of a garden photograph, a flowering stem and a pot plant, you can enter one or all and the members are the judges, there will also be some seasonal snacks. New members are always welcome and the new programme will be available for those joining on the night.

For further information please contact Jenny 01760 723306 or Carol 01760 440719

THANKS. from Grace

I would like to say a BIG thank you to the Ladies Group Committee for a most enjoyable 30th celebration dinner and entertainment.

The Village Hall Committee for a splendid Supper Evening. For their hard work during the year, keeping the Village Hall in good working order.

To every one of you, who have supported the Hall committee in any way throughout this year

To Sheila, Christine, Don and Rod for distributing the Oracle each month.

LADIES GROUP

On Friday November 14th November the Ladies Group celebrated their 30th Anniversary with a dinner party in the village hall. We were lucky that seven past members and 19 current members enjoyed a meal and some entertainment. The committee prepared a 3 course meal, which everyone enjoyed. There was a celebration cake made by Rosemary Philpot and decorated by Grace's daughter Julie. The committee in their wisdom, decided to do a short turn of four 'London' songs. Unfortunately there was no accompanist, but hopefully the ladies enjoyed watching the committee making 'fools' of themselves. So long as it produced some laughter we were happy. This was followed with a sing along for all to join in. Although there were several original members present it had been Grace Rumsby's idea to form a ladies group, so she was asked to cut the cake, assisted by Linda Murray who is our newest member.

All the ladies were given a piece of cake, and presented with an inscribed pen as a memento of such a special evening. Christine Hardy had made a small felt case for each pen. The ladies had a buttonhole at their place at the table, which Christine had also made.

All told we had a wonderful evening and I would personally thank the committee for all the hard work they had put into the evening to make sure it was a success... THANK YOU. Angela.

The November meeting on the 18th was a demonstration by Pat Barton on how to make a Christmas green /flower arrangement. Pat had gone to a lot of trouble to prepare everything that was needed to ensure each member went home with an arrangement. When they were complete the hall looked so festive and we were very grateful to Pat for giving us such an interesting evening.

The **December** meeting is on **December 16th at 7.45pm**. This will be a Christmas Social and this year we ask all ladies to bring a small plate of food. No mincepies please, as these will be provided by the committee. This will be followed by some games.

No competition this month.

Our **January** meeting will be on **January 20th 2009**. when we have a lady from Weight Watchers coming to give us some tips on how to lose the weight we have put on over Christmas!!! Competition will be something beginning with S.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone who reads the Oracle a VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and may all your dreams come true in 2009.
Angela

OCTOBER RAINFALL

October 2008	82.5mm or 3.30ins
October 2007	70.5mm or 2.82ins
October 1998	84.5mm or 3.38ins

Thank you Ted

On a much lighter vein.

A primary school teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. One little girl was working very diligently so the teacher asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God"

The teacher paused and said "But no-one knows what God looks like"

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute"

A little old man shuffled slowly into an Ice Cream Parlour and pulled himself awkwardly and painfully up onto a stool. He ordered a banana split. "Crushed nuts?" asked the waitress kindly. "No" he replied "Arthritis"

BAZAAR QUIZ

Please can you return your **Quiz sheets** to Rod in a sealed envelope as soon as possible before the Bazaar. Do not worry if you cannot answer all the questions, neither can I.

If you missed out on the Quiz Rod still has a few left at £1. monies to go to the Bazaar. Our thanks. to Janet for setting this Quiz for us.

CHURCH NEWS

Church services for December

December 14 th	9am	Holy Communion
December 20 th	10am	Decorate the Church
December 22 nd	6pm	Carols by Candlelight
December 25 th	10am	Holy Communion
December 28 th	9.30am	Joint Family Benefice Service at Ashill

Each Thursday Communion at 8am.

Decorating the Church for Christmas –

The church will be opened at 10am on Saturday **December 20th**. We would be grateful for any flowers, greenery and help in making the church look special for Christmas.

Carols by Candlelight Service - This will be held on **Monday December 22nd at 6pm**. Mulled wine and mincepies will be served after the service. A warm welcome to you all to join with us for this special service.

PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting was held on November 6th with the prime aim of setting the budget for 2009/ 2010. With this in mind and considering the current financial situation, the PC were fully prepared to face a hostile gathering of Ovington folk, demanding a substantial cut in rates for this period. It seems that not many people really cared one way or another as only one member of the public attended.

After much discussion it was agreed to set the budget at £3890.00, comprising PCC £400.00, Village Hall £750.00, WPDT £200,00, Wayland First Response £50.00, CAB £100.00, Project Rainbow £100.00, NCAPTC £90.00, Village Hall rent £50.00, Insurance £200,00, Audit £200,00, Salary £1600.00, Expenses £50.00, Village Maintenance £100.00.

A proposal that a donation from this year's fund of £175 towards the Rainbow Project was made and agreed. It was also proposed that in view of the healthy balance the precept for 2009 / 2010 should show a reduction of 10%. This was approved and a precept of £3060 was set. Any short fall in meeting the budget to come from reserves.

Allotments

The clerk reported that he had only one telephone enquiry on this matter, and no written applications, so it was agreed to hold this in abeyance and see if there was any interest before the next meeting.

Fuel Trust

Mr .Reg Farmer was appointed as Parish Council representative on the Ovington Fuel Trust, to serve for a term of four years.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday **January 8th 2009. at 7.30pm**

For Village Hall Bookings please give Christine a ring on 889920

Deadline Day for the **January Oracle** will be **December 17th 12noon.**

NB Please submit your items if possible before this date as the schedule will be tight this month for printing it.

Dear Editors

The Cockerel Affair

The kneejerk reaction to what was a private matter between neighbours at the outer edges of Ovington is simply a manifestation of unseemly resentment. Ovington, in common with most Norfolk villages, has a substantial immigrant population many of whom are ex-urbanites like me. Minding one's own business in a micro-community is not easy. Let me deal with some of the points raised by your correspondents.

J Ayris complains about wasting taxpayer's money. Like him I am a taxpayer only undoubtedly in a higher band so it's my money I am spending. He also invites me to "get a life". It's an odd way to address one of his regular customers though I will admit I am sometimes tempted to do the same at the restaurant.

Hiding behind initials, S.E. bizarrely suggests a vetting procedure before allowing "townies" to buy country properties. Judging by recent reports I would have thought rural Britain needs any support it can get from any source. Such divisive, hypocritical and narrow-minded ideas are not only outdated but undermine the very fabric of society. Possibly the most patronising and supercilious letter is from J. M. Hill who thinks I'm lucky to be a "guest" in Ovington and have "more gas than a WW2 barrage balloon". Guest I am not, nor a barrage balloon. Look around you and you'll see plenty of those walking the streets.

Whilst I loath confrontation I will make an exception in J. M. Hill's case by inviting him or her either to call me or knock on my door so I can explain the 'cockerel affair' face to face. It is obvious your correspondents have chosen to listen only to one side of the story. Their attitude is neither diplomatic nor democratic but does illustrate a centuries old xenophobia that still exists between rural and urban communities.

Mike Pemberton, Brovey Lair.

Editors

Christine at Saham Road 885848
Grace at 31 The Street 882246

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM FOR OVINGTON LOTTERY 2009

First Name(s)and Surname.....

Address.....

Tel No.....

Membership is £12 per annum. Payment enclosed: Cash or Cheque (payable to Ovington Village hall) and return to:- Grace at 31 The Street Ovington by **5th January 2009 latest.**